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October 15, 2014

Sean Sheldrake  
Project Coordinator  
U.S. EPA, Region 10  
1200 Sixth Avenue, M/S ECL-111  
Seattle, Washington 98101

Re: September 2014 Monthly Progress Report  
Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Removal Action  
U.S. EPA Region 10 Docket No. CERCLA 10-2009-0255  
Gasco Sediments Site within the Portland Harbor Superfund Site

Project Number: 000029-02.32

Dear Mr. Sheldrake:

This monthly progress report provides information required by Section VIII, Paragraph 26, of the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Removal Action (Order) for actions taken in September 2014 at the Gasco Sediments Site within the Portland Harbor Superfund Site.

## **1. ACTIONS TAKEN IN THIS MONTH AND PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED**

The following actions and correspondences occurred in this month:

- **September 9** – Anchor QEA submitted responses to EPA's September 4, 2014 comments on the Gasco Sediments Site *Differential Temperature Sensing Work Plan*.
- **September 11** – NW Natural received EPA's conditional approval to proceed with field installation of the Gasco Sediments Site *Differential Temperature Sensing Work Plan*.
- **September 14-18** – Anchor QEA completed the field installation of the differential temperature sensing cable array.

- **September 15** – Anchor QEA submitted the Gasco Sediments Site monthly progress report to EPA.
- **September 16** – Anchor QEA performed the monthly visual monitoring of the shoreline area in the direct vicinity of the pilot cap.
- **September 18** – Anchor QEA had communications with EPA regarding a sheen that was observed during installation of the distributed temperature sensing cable array. Anchor QEA field staff and EPA-oversight personnel agreed the observed sheen was not caused by the installation activities. Historically and seasonally sheen has been observed in this area and per NW Natural's agreement with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Anchor QEA manages a boom around this area to contain any intermittent sheen. Anchor QEA had to temporarily relocate the boom to facilitate deployment of the DTS cable. Anchor QEA had a subcontractor reinstall the boom following completion of the cable installation in this area. There were no observations of sheen moving out of the general area during the temporary boom relocation.
- **September 19-30** – Perform the necessary calibrations of the distributed temperature sensing and perform initial data collection during operation and shut-down of the upland Hydraulic Control & Containment (HC&C) pumping system.

## **2. RESULTS OF SAMPLING, TESTS, AND OTHER DATA RECEIVED**

The results of the monthly visual monitoring of the shoreline area in the direct vicinity of the pilot cap are provided as Attachment A.

## **3. SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEXT MONTH**

Anchor QEA anticipates the following activities to occur in the next month:

- Submit the October monthly progress report.
- Complete monthly visual monitoring of the shoreline area in the direct vicinity of the pilot cap area.
- Collect field data in accordance with the Gasco Sediments Site *Differential Temperature Sensing Work Plan*.

## **4. ANTICIPATED PROBLEMS AND PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS**

No problems or unforeseen conditions were encountered.

NW Natural remains ready at EPA's convenience to meet with EPA to discuss the path forward for the Gasco Sediments Site. Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,



Ryan Barth, P.E.  
Assistant Project Manager



Carl Stivers, Partner  
Project Manager

**Attachments:**

Attachment A      Monthly Visual Monitoring Report for Pilot Cap Vicinity

Cc:

Bob Wyatt, NW Natural

Patty Dost, Pearl Legal Group PC

Myron Burr, Siltronic Corporation

Alan Gladstone and William Earle, Davis Rothwell Earle and Xochihua

James Peale, Maul Foster Alongi, Inc.

Lance Peterson, CDM Smith

Matt McClincy, DEQ

Dana Bayuk, DEQ



## Visual Observations Log Form

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**Date** September 16, 2014 **Project Number:** 000029-02 BG-32 Task 4a

**Location:** NW Natural "Gasco" Site

**Project Name:** NW Natural – Gasco

**Monitoring Period:** Monthly (Year 8)—September 2014

**Time Observations Started:** September 16, 2014 @ 07:30 **Time Observation Concluded:** September 16, 2014 @ 08:30

**Weather Conditions:** Hazy, 58° Fahrenheit, wind 0-5 knots from SE.

**Wave Action Observations:** Very little wave action (0.0 – 0.1 feet in height)

**Photographs Taken:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

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**Tidal Conditions:** Willamette River level on 9/16/14 ranged in elevation from 1.06 to 4.58 feet. The Willamette River level during photos was approximately 1.28 feet measured at 08:00 (River Level Elevation Datum: Morrison Gage Height).

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**Observations of Erosion/Deposition:** Four organo-clay mat material segments are visible and totally out of the water. A segment measuring 5-foot in length is within 5 -6 feet of the water's edge near the lateral mid-point of the cap area. A 20 foot section is shoreward of the water's edge located perpendicular to the shoreline at the upriver boundary of the cap. A section of organoclay mat material measuring 40 feet in length is exposed near the downriver extent of the cap at the water's edge (Photo 1). Two areas of exposed organoclay mat material measuring 1-2 feet in length were visible for the first time as a result of an extremely low river level at the time of this observation.

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**Observations of Long-term Controls (i.e., oil booms, organo-clay mat, etc.)** During the observation, a barge was tied at the pier and the Fuel and Marine Marketing (FAMM) containment boom was placed around a barge at the ship dock during refueling operations. Two buoys that identify the cap area to mariners are in place as installed. The position of the FAMM oil boom, warning buoys, and a general overview of the site shoreline is shown in Photo 3.

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**Other Comments:**

No sheen is evident in or around the cap area. Photo 4 shows the water surface and shoreline immediately downriver of the sediment cap.

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**Recorded by:**

**Douglas Laffoon**

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Photo 1 — *Visible section of organo-clay mat at the downriver extent of cap area (9/16/14):*



Photo 2 – *New one and two foot exposed sections noted (9/16/14):*



Photo 3 — *FAMM oil boom placement and mariner warning buoys at pilot cap area. (9/16/14):*



Photo 4 — *Conditions immediately downriver of cap area (9/16/14):*

